



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 16869S-111200US  
Client Ref. No.: W1470-01ES

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Hirofumi NAGASUKA *et al.*

Application No.: 10/804,942

Filed: March 18, 2004

For: STORAGE MANAGEMENT  
METHOD

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No.: 8073

Examiner: Unassigned

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2186

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.